



Docket No. 042438.P064C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

JERRY IGGULDEN, ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/603,535

Filed: 06/25/2003

For: **CONTAINER AND TESTING DEVICE
FOR SPORTS BALLS**

Art Unit: 2855

Examiner: Noori, Max H.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Mail Stop: Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action mailed January 5, 2004. Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by either Kovacs et al. or Lowe. Applicant respectfully traverses this ground for rejection.

A rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is proper only if the cited reference discloses each and every limitation of the rejected claim. Applicant submits that neither Kovacs nor Lowe satisfies this standard.

Claim 1 of the subject application requires a testing device that "includes an indicator to provide a visual indication of a force exerted in the axial direction by a partially compressed sport ball." Kovacs discloses a computer-controlled ball throwing machine. Kovacs discloses provision of a strain gauge to measure physical parameters of a ball so that the trajectory of the ball may be adjusted accordingly. Kovacs does not expressly disclose that the strain gauge

measures a force exerted in an axial direction by a partially compressed ball; however, even if this is the case, there is no indicator to provide a visual indication of such force.

Lowe discloses an apparatus for automatically teeing a golf ball. Applicant is unable to find any disclosure in Lowe concerning a test device that includes an indicator to provide a visual indication of a force exerted on the ball. Lowe discloses a threshold sensor for sensing pressure of the hydraulic fluid in the apparatus that then controls operation of a valve that regulates transport of the golf ball. This is nothing at all like the indicator recited in claim 1.

For the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

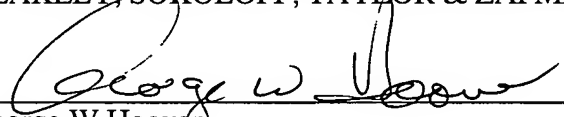
Claims 1 and 2 have also been rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,612,182. Applicant hereby submits a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate this ground for rejection.

Based on all of the forgoing, Applicant believes that claims 1 and 2, the only claims pending in the application, are in condition for allowance and notice to such effect is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: April 5, 2004


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to : Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: April 5, 2004


Kelly Walsh
Date April 5, 2004



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Art Unit: **2855**

Examiner: **Noori, Max H.**

**TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A
DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PRIOR PATENT**

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Petitioner, Jerry Iggulden, is the owner of the entire interest in the instant application.

Petitioner hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of prior Patent No. 6,612,182. Petitioner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patents granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

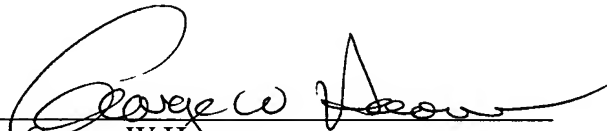
In making the above disclaimer, petitioner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that the prior patent later expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321, has all claims canceled by a

reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Dated: April 5, 2004

By:


George W Hoover
Blakely, Sokoloff, Taylor & Zafman LLP
Reg. No. 32,992
Attorney for Jerry Iggulden

☒ Terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) included.

☒ PTO suggested wording for terminal disclaimer was:

☒ unchanged; ☐ changed (if changed, an explanation should be supplied).



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